

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 DIWY-01

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

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R 232224Z OCT 75

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3205

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, WCIWY

SUBJ: 30TH UNGA - FOLLOW-UP OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR (WCIWY) IN COMMITTEE  
WORK OF THE GA

REF: STATE 242881

SUMMARY: FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD CONFERENCE FOR INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S YEAR AT UNGA PRESENTS A NUMBER OF OPPORTUNITIES  
BUT ALSO PROBLEMS, AMONG THE LATTER THE DECLARATION WHICH USG  
VOTED AGAINST AT MEXICO CITY. THE MISSION HAS UNDERTAKEN  
A REVIEW OF POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES AT THE 30TH  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WE INTEND TO INITIATIE OR  
COOPERATE IN THE DRAFTING OF DECISIONS OR RESOLUTIONS  
IN COMMITTEES 2, 3 AND 5. WHERE APPROPRIATE, THE US  
DELEGATION WILL INVLUDE COMMENTS ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN  
STATEMENTS BEFORE THESE THREE COMMITTEES. SEVERAL ACTION  
REQUIREMENTS ARE RECOMMENDED IN THIS CABLE AND USUN URGES  
EARLY RESPONSE FROM THE DEPARTMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. THE MISSION HAS UNDERTAKEN INDEPENDENTLY TO REVIEW  
POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP AT THE 30TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE  
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WORLD CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR.

WE HAVE CONCLUDED, AS HAS THE DEPARTMENT IN REFTTEL, THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA OF SEVERAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES WHICH PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S. LEADERSHIP IN IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE PLAN OF ACTION AND RESOLUTIONS WHICH THE U.S. SPONSORED AT MEXICO CITY.

2. ALTHOUGH IT IS CLEARLY IN THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO DOWNPLAY THE DECLARATION, WE ARE NOT AT ALL SANGUINE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO SO. THE MEXICAN DELEGATION IN PARTICULAR AND A NUMBER OF G-77 MEMBERS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE AS INTERESTED IN HIGHLIGHTING THE DECLARATION AS WE ARE INTERESTED IN HIGHLIGHTING THE PLAN OF ACTION. FURTHERMORE, THE ARABS MAY WELL REVIVE THE QUESTION OF ZIONISM. THE THIRD COMMITTEE'S RECORD SO FAR IS INDICATIVE IN THIS RESPECT. USUN, THEREFORE, WILL NEED FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT ON HANDLING THE DECLARATION ON WHICH WE SHALL FIRMLY MAINTAIN THE U.S. POSITION.

3. THERE ARE VARIOUS FACTORS WHICH WILL COMPLICATE THE PARLIAMENTARY SITUATION. THE UN SECRETARIAT UNIT HEADED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL SIPILA IS NOT STRONG, AND HAS BEEN SLOW IN DEVELOPING STRATEGY FOR FOLLOW-THROUGH AFTER THE MEXICO CITY CONFERENCE. WORK ON RESOLUTIONS IS NOT VERY FAR ADVANCED. AS TEXTS BECOME AVAILABLE, WE WILL FORWARD THEM TO THE DEPARTMENT. A SECOND CHALLENGE IS THE MEXICAN DELEGATION, SINCE MEXICO FEELS A PROPRIETARY INTEREST IN THE CONFERENCE. WE HAVE ALREADY APPROACHED THE MEXICAN DELEGATION AT THE WORKING LEVEL AND INDICATED THAT WE WISH TO WORK WITH THEM ON FOLLOW-UP TO THE WCIWY IN ALL OF THE COMMITTEES. THEY HAVE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE BUT HAVE CLEARLY INDICATED THEY HAVE THEIR OWN AXES TO GRIND, I.E., THE DECLARATION AND THE CERDS. THEIR DELEGATE ON THIS ITEM IS ARRIVING IN NEW YORK THIS WEEK.

4. THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF THIS ITEM IS OF IMPORTANCE TO US SINCE WE WISH THIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO BUILD ON ACTIVITIES ALREADY SET IN MOTION BY OTHER FORUMS. THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1942 (LVII) ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POPULATION, THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT. THAT RESOLUTION URGED UN BODIES, MEMBER STATES AND NGO'S TO TAKE STEPS "TO ACHIEVE THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN...IN THE EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL LIFE OF THEIR COUNTRIES ON AN EQUAL BASIS WITH MEN." ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1959 (IX) INTER ALIA URGED MEMBER STATES AND ALL ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UN SYSTEM "TO TAKE INTENSIFIED AND SUSTAINED ACTION TO ACHIEVE

THE FULL EQUALITY OF MEN AND WOMEN..." THE UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL AT ITS 19TH SESSION ENDORSED A DECISION REQUESTING THAT THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE A CONTINUING CONSIDERATION IN THE FORMULATION, DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF UNDP PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS. THE SAME DECISION INVITED THE ADMINISTRATOR TO CONTINUE THE ACTIONS HE HAD UNDERTAKEN TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING POSTS WITHIN THE UNDP ADMINISTRATION. GA RESOLUTION 3352 (XXIX) REQUESTED THE SYSG AND ALL EXECUTIVE HEADS OF UN SYSTEM ORGANIZATIONS TO ENSURE AN EQUITABLE BALANCE BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN STAFF MEMBERS. THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE SECRETARIAT WAS CREATED AS A RESULT OF A US INITIATIVE IN THE UNGA LAST FALL.

5. THIS LEGISLATIVE HISTORY IS NOT NECESSARILY EXHAUSTIVE BUT KNOWLEDGE OF IT IS A SINE QUA NON TO ORDERLY AND PRODUCTIVE ACTION AT THIS SESSION. WE WISH NOT TO DUPLICATE IT, BUT RATHER TO BUILD ON IT TO STRENGTHEN THE BASE FOR ACTION ON WOMEN'S ISSUES AND MOVE THE UN SYSTEM TO MORE CONCRETE STEPS.

6. THE MISSION WISHES TO CONCENTRATE ACTIVITIES ON FOLLOW-UP TO THE WCIWY IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE. AT A MEETING CALLED BY MRS. SIPILA OCTOBER 15, THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF THE POSSIBILITY OF ASSIGNING THE FOLLOW-UP ON THE PLAN OF ACTION TO THE SECOND COMMITTEE. WHILE THIS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE PART DEALING WITH WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT, IT SEEMS TO US NOT THE PLACE FOR THE TOTAL FOLLOW-UP EFFORT. FURTHERMORE, THE ITEM HAS ALREADY BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE THIRD COMMITTEE, AND IT WOULD BE LATE TO CHANGE. WE ARE THEREFORE URGING THAT THE ITEM CONTINUE IN THIRD COMMITTEE, WHILE BOTH THE SECOND AND FIFTH COMMITTEES TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON RELEVANT ASPECTS. OUR PRESENT THINKING IS TO WORK FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD ENDORSE THE PLAN OF ACTION, URGE GOVERNMENTS AND UN AGENCIES TO CARRY IT OUT, AND ASSIGN SPECIFIC FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON SPECIFIC POINTS TO BE INCLUDED IN RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS UNDER ITEMS 75 AND 76, AND PROPOSED DRAFT LANGUAGE.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 DIWY-01

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7. ALSO IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE, USUN BELIEVES THAT THE ITEM ON THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION WOULD PROVIDE A FRUITFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR FURTHERING WOMEN'S ISSUES. USUN WILL BE PREPARING A DRAFT DECISION FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION UNDER THIS ITEM. THE OTHER ITEMS SUGGESTED IN REFTEL FOR THIRD COMMITTEE ACTION PRESENT SOME PROBLEMS. TWO OF THE ITEMS ARE SOVIET-INSPIRED: HUMAN RIGHTS AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND NATIONAL EXPERIENCE. USUN WISHES TO DEAL WITH THESE TWO ITEMS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT CALLING UNDUE ATTENTION TO THEM. ON THE ITEM CONCERNING TORTURE, THE USG IS ALREADY SPONSORING AN INITIATIVE ANNOUNCED BY THE SECRETARY IN HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE 30TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

8. IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE, EVERY EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO INCLUDE APPROPRIATE REFERENCES TO THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN OUR STATEMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL ITEMS. SO FAR WE HAVE INCORPORATED REFERENCES IN OUR STATEMENTS ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND ON FOOD PROBLEMS. WE INTEND TO MAKE SOME TEN ADDITIONAL GENERAL STATEMENTS IN THE COMMITTEE AND PLAN TO INCLUDE APPROPRIATE REFERENCES IN SEVEN OF THEM. WE CERTAINLY BELIEVE THAT THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL EXERCISE WILL PROVIDE A USEFUL  
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OPPORTUNITY FOR THE INITIATION OF A DECISION OR RESOLUTION. CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM IS TO BEGIN AROUND NOVEMBER 1. USUN WILL COORDINATE WITH IO/CMD IN DRAFTING A PAPER ON

THIS ITEM. ITEM 82 ON THE UNIFIED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT MAY WELL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY. THE SOVIETS HAVE ALREADY INFORMALLY CIRCULATED A RESOLUTION ON THIS ITEM. WE ARE AWAITING DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON THE SOVIET DRAFT, AND WOULD URGE THE DEPARTMENT TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF INJECTING AN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN. THERE WILL ALSO BE OPPORTUNITIES ON ITEM 123, SINCE THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION RECOMMENDED THAT RELEVANT RECOMMENDATIONS OF WCIWY BE BROUGHT TO SECOND COMMITTEE ATTENTION HERE. THE ITEMS OF UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNEP AND CERDS ARE LIKELY TO BE CONTROVERSIAL, AND WE DO NOT PLAN TO COMPLICATE AN ALREADY DIFFICULT SITUATION BY ATTEMPTING TO INCORPORATE THE ROLE OF WOMEN INTO THEIR CONSIDERATION.

9. DELEGATION STATEMENTS IN FIFTH COMMITTEE WILL ALSO CONTAIN REFERENCES TO THE ROLE OF WOMEN. FUNDING FOR CENTER FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS IN PROPOSED PROGRAM BUDGET WILL BE CONSIDERED SHORTLY. US DELEGATION WILL MAKE A STRONG STATEMENT INDICATING HIGH PRIORITY WE GIVE TO THE WORK OF THE CENTER, AND IN PARTICULAR TO ACTIVITIES PERTAINING TO THE ROLE AND CONDITION OF WOMEN. WE WILL INDICATE THAT NEEDED ECONOMIES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS SHOULD NOT DETRACT FROM THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CENTER. US DELEGATION WILL INDICATE THAT WE LOOK FORWARD TO STRENGTHENING OF CENTER IN PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTING PLAN OF ACTION ADOPTED IN MEXICO.

10. UNDER AGENDA ITEMS 104 (PERSONNEL QUESTIONS), 105 (UN SALARY SYSTEM), AND 106 (UN PENSION SYSTEM), SOME PROGRESS TOWARD EQUALITY FOR WOMEN IN THE SECRETARIAT WILL BE REPORTED, PARTICULARLY IN ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATION IN STAFF RULES AND PENSION FUND. WE WILL NOTE THAT DESPITE EFFORTS OF PAST THREE YEARS, HOWEVER, NUMBER OF WOMEN IN TOP PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS HAS NOT INCREASED AND IN SOME CATEGORIES HAS ACTUALLY DECLINED. OUR EMPHASIS WILL BE UPON IMPLEMENTATION OF UNGA RESOLUTION 3352 (XXIX) AND RESOLUTION OF WECIWY ON EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN UN; UPON WORK OF STANDING COMMITTEE; AND UPON DETAILED REPORT BY THE SYG TO 31ST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNGA. WE INTEND TO PRESS FOR PRIORITY ATTENTION TO THESE ISSUES.

11. THE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES PRESENTED BY WOMEN'S ITEMS WILL REQUIRE CLOSE CONTINUING COORDINATION BETWEEN MISSION AND DEPARTMENT. WE WILL KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS, AND MEANWHILE REQUEST COMMENTS, GUIDANCE AND SUGGESTED DRAFT LANGUAGE ON ITEMS OUTLINED ABOVE.  
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